# MINUTES OF XL BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING
# OF THE NORTHCAP UNIVERSITY
# HELD ON 02nd MAY 2024 (THURSDAY) AT 11:30 A.M

The following members attended the **XL** meeting of the Board of Management held on **02ND** May 2024 **(Thursday)** at **11:30am at The NorthCap University, Gurugram.**

| S. No | Name | Representing | Designation |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Prof. (Dr.) Nupur Prakash | Vice-Chancellor | Chairperson |
| 2 | Ms. Indira Sharma Nominated Representative **(Attended Online)** | Additional Chief Secretary Higher Education, Department of Higher Education, Government of Haryana / nominated rep | Member |
| 3 | Mr. Shiv Saran Mehra | Governing Body Member (Nominee of Sponsoring Body) | Member |
| 4 | Dr. Z. Daulet Singh | Governing Body Member (Nominee of Sponsoring Body) | Member |
| 5 | Mrs. Kavita Mishra **(Leave of absence)** | Non-Governing Body Member (Nominee of Sponsoring Body) | Member |
| 6 | Mr. N. K. Dewan **(Leave of absence)** | Non-Governing Body Member (Nominee of Sponsoring Body) | Member |
| 7 | Dr. Malini Eliatamby **(Attended Online)** | Nominee of Sponsoring Body | Special Invitee |
| 8 | Prof. Manoj Kumar Gopaliya | Teacher of the University (Nominee of Sponsoring Body) | Member |
| 9 | Prof. Archana Sarma | Teacher of the University (Nominee of Sponsoring Body) | Member |
| 10 | Prof. Rita Chhikara | Teacher of the University (Nominee of Sponsoring Body) | Member |
| 11 | Prof. G. R. Chandrashekhar | Teacher of the University (Nominee of VC) | Member |
| 12 | Prof. Sona Vikas | Teacher of the University (Nominee of VC) | Member |
| 13 | Commodore Diwakar Tomar NM (Retd.) | Registrar | Member - Secretary |

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

## WELCOME ADDRESS

The Chairperson welcomed the Governing Body Members to the meeting. She also welcomed Ms. Indira Sharma and Ms. Malini Eliatamby, the external members of the Board of Management, to the meeting. She thanked the members of the Board of Management for their continuous support and guidance. Thereafter, the Chairperson requested the Member Secretary to proceed with the agenda of the day.

Member Secretary presented the agenda items.

**ITEM No. 1: CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE XXXIX MEETING OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT** held on 31 January 2024**,** circulated by email on 09 February 2024, enclosed as **Annexure 1,** including confirmation and progress on matters arising thereof.
(Member Secretary)

Action taken points of the previous meeting held on 31 January 2024 were presented and are summarized as under:

| Agenda | Point in brief | Action taken |
|---|---|---|
| ITEM NO 2 Admission update for the Academic Year 2024-25 | • Potential inclusion of BCom (H) and BCom (H) Financial Markets programs coupled with ACCA Certification. | • Current offering already includes - BCOM (H), BCOM (Financial Markets). <br><br> • BCOM with ACCA Certification is already offered to the students with partial integration (06 courses of ACCA already embedded within the NCU curriculum). <br><br> • BCOM with full integration of ACCA courses in NCU curriculum will be offered from the forthcoming Academic Session 2024-25. |
|  | • SOM&LS to allocate 3-4 specialised faculty members for Economics. | • Currently only 2 running batches of BA Economics with a combined strength of 31 students. <br><br> • To cater to them, there is 1 regular faculty in Core Economics and 2 regular faculty in Applied Economics, which is considered sufficient. <br><br> • In case one more section comes up in 2024, 1 core faculty will be recruited. |
|  | • Forward relevant correspondence on the issue of non-approval of MA (English) course to Ms Indira Sharma, rep ACS Higher Education Dept. for quick reference and necessary action. | • Necessary relevant correspondence was forwarded to rep ACS Higher Education Dept. on 31 Jan 2024 itself. <br><br> • Notwithstanding the same, NCU has applied afresh for approval of MA (English) course to DHE on 28 Feb 2024. DHE has sought comments on the NCUs proposal from experts at Kurukshetra Univ and Maharishi Dayanand Univ. |
| ITEM NO 3 Update on Placements | • CPAA to share list of certification courses required for enhancing students' employability with the HODs. | • List of desirable certification courses, as sought by companies coming for campus placements, shared by CPAA with all HODs in Feb 2024. The following certification options have been circulated to all students of CSE & SOET: - <br> ➢ Certified Pega System Architect <br> ➢ Certified Pega Senior System Architect <br> ➢ AWS Certified Developer – Associate <br> ➢ AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate |

| Agenda | Point in brief | Action taken |
|---|---|---|
| | | <ul><li>➢ AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner</li><li>➢ Microsoft Certified: Azure Fundamentals</li><li>➢ Microsoft Certified: Azure Developer Associate</li></ul> |
| | • CPAA to have a consolidated list of students pursuing certification courses at any point of time. | • List of students pursuing certification courses is being maintained by CPAA, and continuously updated.<br><br>• 40 students from CSE dept. have completed AWS Cloud Practitioners Certification.<br><br>• 15 Faculty members of CSE dept. have earned Certificate of Excellence on Coding Ninza Platform and AWS Certificates. |
| ITEM NO 5 Conduct of Convocation Ceremony | A core group to examine the issue of further improving the Convocation Ceremony of the university, and propose a suitable SOP for the same | • Core group comprising of Advisor academics, Registrar, Dean Academic affairs, Dy Dean Students Welfare and Assistant Registrar constituted.<br><br>• Revised SOP has been prepared by the core team.<br><br>• Details will be presented under Agenda Item no 6. |
| ITEM NO 10 Any other matter with the permission of the Chair | • Waiver of English Proficiency test for accelerated Masters programme in software Engineering at ASU. | • Issue was taken up with ASU and Cintana. For the specific case under consideration (Ripudaman Singh), the student ultimately had to give the English proficiency exam, and submit his score at the ASU admissions portal.<br><br>• Post multiple reminders, ASU issued his admission letter with mention of remaining exemptions viz. acceptance of 12 credits earned by the student at NCU so as to complete his MS in 01 year instead of the standard 02 years. The student accordingly saves 01 year fee as well.<br><br>• NCU advised Cintana to ensure that formal documentation for all pre-approved articulations between ASU and NCU, such as the Global Link Pathway agreement and the Approved plan of study for each articulation, should be signed by designated personnel from both NCU and ASU. Post this documentation, we shall recommence promotion of the accelerated pathways amongst the students. |
| | • Forward relevant correspondence pertaining to the issue of Reservation in Admission and Fee Concession to Ms Indira | • Relevant correspondence was forwarded to rep ACS Higher Education Dept. on 31 Jan 2024 itself. |

| Agenda | Point in brief | Action taken |
|---|---|---|
| | Sharma, rep ACS Higher Education Dept. | • Post that, reminder letters have also been made to DHE Haryana on the subject on 13 Mar 24 and 18 Apr 24. |
| | • Forward relevant correspondence pertaining to the issue of Proposed Audit of Private Universities of Haryana by Quality Council of India to Ms Indira Sharma, rep ACS Higher Education Dept. | • Relevant correspondence was forwarded to rep ACS Higher Education Dept. on 31 Jan 2024 itself. |
| | • Forward relevant correspondence pertaining to grant of approval to NCU to offer courses in ODL mode to Ms Indira Sharma, rep ACS Higher Education Dept. | • Relevant correspondence was forwarded to rep ACS Higher Education Dept. on 31 Jan 2024 itself.<br><br>• Post that, reminders have also been made on 13 Feb 24 and 17 Apr 24. |

**Points Discussed:**

1. Member Secretary highlighted the concern regarding non-approval of the MA (English) course which the university had applied for last year. The Member Secretary brought out that NCU has applied afresh for approval of MA (English) to DHE on 28 Feb 2024. He also brought out that NCU has applied for approval of a new program; B.A (Journalism and Media Production) on 18th March 2024. As per available information, DHE has sought comments on the NCUs proposals on 18th March 2024 and 3rd April 2024 respectively, from experts at Kurukshetra University and Maharishi Dayanand University. However, no further update is available. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor requested representative DHE to provide clear timelines for approval of these courses as the new academic session will be beginning shortly, and the university needs to offer these programs to prospective students. Ms Indira Sharma acknowledged the concerns and informed that she had taken up the issue of approval of MA (English) course with DHE but did not get any response. She stated that she will once again take up the matter with the Director of Higher Education. Mr Mehra requested her to continue pursuing the matter with DHE to elicit an early response.

2. Dr. Rita Chhikara brought out that till date 35 faculty members have received Certificate of Excellence on Coding Ninza Platform and AWS Certificates. Mr. Shiv Mehra appreciated the efforts of the faculty members and was pleased to know that the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor has also issued Certificates of Appreciation to these faculty members.

3. The two issues pertaining to grant of approval to NCU to offer courses in ODL mode, and, Reservation in Admission and Fee Concession were once again brought to the notice of Ms. Indira Sharma. Mr Mehra urged for a prompt resolution of these pending issues, highlighting the uneven playing field and disparity with other state universities of Haryana in this regard. He brought out that these unresolved matters hinder comprehensive implementation of the National Education Policy 2020 by the NorthCap University.

Ms Indira Sharma brought out that she has raised these issues with the concerned authorities in DHE but has not got any response. She stated that she will once again take up the matter with the Director of Higher Education. Mr Mehra requested her to continue pursuing the matter with DHE to elicit an early response.

4. Mr Mehra also referred to the issue of audit of state private universities by Quality Council of India, proposed by the Directorate Higher Education. Mr Mehra conveyed that a letter has been sent to the Director Higher Education by the university bringing out that NCU is regularly undergoing several audits by appropriate bodies (regulatory as well as Govt nominated) to assess its financial, academic, and administrative practices. He therefore stated that the proposed audits should be done for those universities which are not accredited by NAAC, or, which are not undergoing regular assessments etc., and that an accredited university like NCU should not be subjected to the said audit, as it would be a mere repetition/ duplicity of earlier audits. He highlighted that the Quality Council cannot have any conditions which are not in sync with what UGC prescribes. Since UGC accords approval, QCI audit serves no purpose. He brought out that NCU has not received any response from the Department of Higher Education on this issue. Ms Indira Sharma informed the members that she would make efforts to accelerate the process and expedite a response.

5. Member Secretary briefed the members on the issue of waiver of proficiency test for the accelerated master's program in software engineering at ASU. He brought out that ASU has not honoured its earlier commitment of waiving off the English proficiency test and that the NCU student had to finally appear for the test. He brought out that NCU has taken up the matter with Cintana and ASU, but the same remains unresolved. Ms. Malini acknowledged the issue and informed that articulations on new mutually acceptable entry requirements are in progress, and henceforth, the letters issued to the students would be duly signed by ASU representative, confirming and clearly stating the exemptions/ conditions. The Vice Chancellor requested Ms Malini to expedite and resolve the issue once and for all at the earliest to avoid any avoidable litigation by students/ parents.

6. Mr Mehra highlighted that NCU is promoting various foreign programs, including summer internships and immersion programs based on agreed commitments, and that a formal documentation needs to be swiftly compiled and signed by both parties, to ensure ASU's participation in these initiatives. Mr Mehra requested Ms Malini to take up the issue with Cintana and ASU to ensure that all such agreements on various issues are signed by both parties, and stated that pending the same, NCU will not be promoting the ASU programmes.

7. Mr Mehra also informed a meeting of Mr Avdhesh Mishra and himself with Mr Rick and Mr Chaitanya was held on 12 Feb 2024, and another with Mr Neel Broker and Mr Chaitanya on 18 April 2024 to discuss a revised and more implementable scope of work on which NCU and Cintana/ ASU can collaborate, as compared to the existing Licence Agreement of February 2021, which has failed to deliver on several counts. Mr Mehra brought out that as a workable way ahead, a reworked and mutually agreeable scope of work, with revised terms and conditions with ASU needs to be finalised at the earliest, and that Mr Chaitanya has been requested to forward a formal proposal in this regard, during the above referred meetings. The same is still awaited and needs to be expedited.

**The members took note of the above and confirmed the minutes of the 39th Board of Management meeting held on 31 January 2024.**

**ITEM No. 2: ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR THE ODD SEMESTER OF ACADEMIC YEAR 2024 - 2025.**

(Dean Academics)

Dean-Academic presented the Academic Calendar for the Odd Semester of Academic Year 2024-25 during the meeting. He brought out that the Academic Calendar is prepared well in advance of commencement of semester and shall be tabled in the forthcoming Academic Council Meeting on 15th May 2024 for approval. Academic Calendar is placed at **Annexure 2.**

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the above.**

**ITEM No. 3: ANALYSIS OF SEMESTER RESULT JULY - DECEMBER 2023**

(Dy. Dean Examination)

Dy. Dean Examination presented a detailed analysis of the semester results of July-Dec 2023 for all the Schools. Copy of the same is placed at **Annexure 3**. She brought out that the overall failure rate in the Centre for Media & Entertainment (CME) program stands high at 74.55% and is an area of concern. In Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA) program and the Centre for Language Learning (CLL) programs, the overall failure rate stands at 54.76% and 41.54% respectively. It was discussed that these figures are alarming and proactive measures are required to be taken on priority to improve the situation. It was also highlighted that approximately 50% of the failed students across different programs are of the detained category i.e who did not sit for the exams due to low attendance. This was more pronounced in the programs of Department of Applied Sciences (APS), School of Management (SOM), CLL, and CME. It was also highlighted that in the 1st semester of the School of Management (SOM), 65% of the failed students were of the detained category, indicating slackness in attending classes. Additionally, it was brought out that the 'all-clear' rates in SOM III and V semesters were below 50%. Dy Dean Examinations also brought out that out of the failed students of CLL, 48% were of the detained category, while for CME the figure stands at 51%.

It was however highlighted that there has been an overall improvement in results across all branches in the July-December 2023 period as compared to the preceding semester, with the 'overall pass percentage' increasing to 73.76% from the earlier 66.05%. Also, whilst the percentage of detained students is still observed to be high, the proportion of detained students in the July-December 2023 period is 34% of total failures, as opposed to 48% of total failures in the January-June 2023 period.

**Points Discussed:**

1. Dy Dean Examination brought out that the Centre of Media and Entertainment (CME) has a very high failure rate, as only 25% of the total students have managed to clear their semester, which is an area of concern. The issue was deliberated at length, and it was brought out that corrective actions have been taken and necessary steps initiated to improve the admission standards, track attendance, biometric process and continuously monitor the academic performance **(Annexure 4).** These steps are expected to improve the attendance percentages, and in turn, the overall performance of the CME students.

2. The Vice Chancellor brought out a particular concern regarding the eligibility criteria, noting that several students lack a background in mathematics, which could be a contributing factor for the high failure rates. Dr. Zorawar Daulet Singh underscored the importance of admitting students of high quality, advocating for a more stringent filtration process. Mr. Mehra emphasized the necessity for implementing pre-requisites in courses wherever deemed necessary.

3. Dean Academics highlighted that the committee formed after the last Board of Management meeting to review performance of the students has done a commendable job. The Vice Chancellor had closely monitored and examined the high failure rates and had suggested 04 specific remedies which have since been implemented. The corrective measures have helped the students to cope up better, and in this regard the introduction of the bridge classes has helped immensely.

4. It was observed that the contents of the Data Structure and Algorithm course running in BCA and BTech programs was same, and this has resulted in poor performance of BCA students as the requirements of BCA and BTech programs are different. It was decided that the course content of Data Structure and Algorithm for BCA needs to be suitably modified before next semester.

5. Mr Mehra observed that too much information has been packed into each slide, and with the font size also being small, it was difficult to comprehend the slides. Dy Dean Examinations stated that decluttering of the slides would be undertaken from next time onwards, coupled with use of bigger font size.

6. Mr. Mehra highlighted the significance of induction programs for the students, to make them understand the importance of attendance in the classrooms. He conveyed that the significance of adhering to the attendance rules needs to be emphasized to the students, and that low attendance besides resulting in lesser understanding of subjects, could also affect their placements in the long run. The Vice Chancellor shared the directions received from UGC to conduct 'Diksha Arambh' program for freshers admitted to the university system from schools.

7. Mr Mehra also expressed concern in respect of students of SOM&LS and SOL, where pass percentage was barely 50%, and that 46% of the total students SOM&LS had a CGPA below 6, making them ineligible to even sit for placements. Mr Mehra further requested Dr Sona Vikas to come prepared with numbers/ statistics pertaining to data of slides related to her department.

8. The Vice Chancellor stated that immediate and concrete actions are required to be taken to arrest the trend of high failure rates. She suggested that School/ Department wise meetings should be held with participation of HODs, all teachers, and the Dean Academics on a war footing, to understand the 'root cause of high failure rates' and address them comprehensively. She said that a very detailed analysis needs to be done, subject wise, to clearly understand and establish the reasons in detail, and identify actionable steps that need to be taken to overcome the problem. Mr. Mehra suggested to take feedback from the Dean List student also to better understand where the problem lies. This is to be implemented with immediate effect.

9. It was also brought out that a closer look needs to be taken on some of the 'Fundamental courses' where it is observed that students even upon reaching the seventh semester are unable to clear the subject(s). This suggests a deeper problem which needs a thorough analysis, as to whether the problem lies with the course curriculum, the faculty members teaching these courses or degree of difficulty etc. and to understand the reasons why students struggle to pass them.

10. Mr. Mehra emphasized the existence of a Peer-Tutoring program wherein the high scoring / Dean list students tutor the weaker students and receive an honorarium from the university. He inquired about the number of students participating in the Peer tutoring sessions. However, Heads of Departments (HODs) expressed unawareness of the scheme's status in their schools. It was suggested that Prof. Swarn Ahuja, the creator of this scheme should be consulted for reviving and re-implementing the scheme in letter and spirit. Mr Mehra requested the HODs to restart this best practice with immediate effect.

11. Mr. Mehra expressed concern about the weakening best practices over time and emphasized the necessity to reinforce them. He stressed that by reinstating stringent entrance requirements, offering prerequisite options, and revitalizing initiatives like peer-tutoring, we can uphold academic standards, foster student success, and ensure the continued effectiveness of our educational programs. Dean Academics informed that the course on Engineering Mathematics is being revised and can be run without prerequisites independently in any sequence.

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the above.**


## ITEM No. 4: INTRODUCTION OF NEW PROGRAMMES FROM THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-25
(Dean Academics)

Dean Academics updated the members regarding the following new programmes which are proposed to be commenced by The NorthCap University from the Academic Year 2024-25.

a) M.A English
b) B.A Journalism & Media Production

**Points Discussed**:

1. Mr. Mehra highlighted that NCU intended to introduce the M.A English programme from the last Academic Year 2023-24. However, the Department of Higher Education (DHE) did not approve it and neither provided any reason for not approving the program, despite several reminders.
2. The Vice Chancellor brought out that as per the Section 34A(3) of the Haryana Private Universities Act, in case there is no response from the DHE within 120 days of the submission of application for new programme approval, the proposal shall be deemed to be approved.
3. The Vice Chancellor requested the DHE representative Ms. Indira Sharma to expedite the process of approval, as the admission season is on, and NCU is losing out on potential students.

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the above and approved the proposal of commencing M.A English and B.A Journalism & Media Production from Academic Year 2024-2025.**


## ITEM No. 5: CREATION OF SUPERNUMERARY SEATS IN THE UNIVERSITY
(Member Secretary)

Member secretary informed all the members that UGC issued an advisory to all Higher Educational Institutions to create supernumerary seats under the PM CARES for Children Scheme, for children who lost both their parents during the COVID pandemic . This issue was discussed in the 39th Governing Body Meeting held on 1st March 2024, and it was decided that supernumerary seats would be created for the Academic Year 2024-2025. The proposed supernumerary seats in the respective courses are as indicated below, which would be over and above the sanctioned intake:

| S. No. | Name of the Programme | No. of Supernumerary Seats |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | B. Tech. (CSE) | 05 |
| 2. | BCA | 02 |
| 3. | B.A.-Psychology (Hon's) | 02 |
| 4. | B.A.-English (Hon's) | 02 |
| 5. | B. Com. (Hon's) | 02 |
| 6. | BBA-LLB (Hon's) | 02 |

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the above and approved the proposal.**


## ITEM No. 6: SOP ON CONDUCT OF CONVOCATION CEREMONY
(Member Secretary)

The Member Secretary briefed the members that the committee constituted by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to propose revised SOP for conduct of Convocation Ceremony examined the issue, taking into account past experiences and infrastructure available in the University for holding the Convocation. He thereafter brought out the salient aspects of the proposed SOP. The Member Secretary informed the members that the Convocation would continue to be held in two sessions in the university auditorium, viz, morning session with the Chief Guest, and afternoon session presided over by the Pro-Chancellor and Vice Chancellor. It was brought out that all students would be awarded degrees on stage. Parents of all students would also be invited and seated separately, viewing live streaming of the ceremony at their respective locations in the university. Also, registration process for the Convocation would be done on the ERP system of the university. The proposed SOP is placed at **Annexure 5.**

**Point Discussed:**

1. Mr. Mehra suggested that the SOP should be officially documented as a standard practice moving forward.

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the above and approved the SOP.**


## ITEM No. 7: OUT OF BOUNDS DECLARATION FOR A STUDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY
(Member Secretary)

Member secretary informed the members that a complaint was filed by a female faculty to the Internal Complaints Committee of the university against a student Ronit (22CSU371) for stalking and harassing her. In view of the severity of the threatening messages sent by the student to the faculty, the university deemed it necessary to issue an "Out-Of-Bound Declaration" to the student, pending completion of the enquiry by the ICC **(Annexure 6).** It was informed that enquiry by the ICC is in progress and likely to be completed soon.

**Points Discussed:**

1. Mr. Mehra stated that such kind of behaviour is not acceptable in the university, and should be dealt with a zero-tolerance approach and emphasized the need for timely action in the matter.

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the above.**

**ITEM No. 8: ERP STATUS**
(Dean Academics)

Dean Academics updated the members on the status of ERP upgradation **(Annexure 7).** He also briefed the members on the Feedback Capturing mechanism being followed. The complete academic journey of the student is captured though regular feedback systems, commencing from his entry to the university till the Convocation.

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the progress of the ERP upgradation.**


**ITEM No. 9: RESTRUCTURING OF SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT & LIBERAL STUDIES**
(Member Secretary)

The Member Secretary briefed the members about the restructuring of the School of Management & Liberal Studies and establishment of Psychology Department under the umbrella of School of Management & Liberal Studies.
Consequent to the restructuring, the School of Management & Liberal Studies has three distinct Centre / Departments:

- Department of Management & Commerce under HOD Prof. Sona Vikas
- Centre For Language Learning (CLL) under HOD Dr Divyabha
- Department of Psychology under Program Chair Dr. Neha Jain

The revised structure of the School of Management & Liberal Studies is placed at **Annexure 8.**

Dr Neha Jain, Program Chair Department of Psychology thereafter made a presentation (**Annexure 9**) on her department, highlighting the key objectives, present status, and way ahead towards making it a preferred choice for students seeking a career in this field.

**Points Discussed:**

1. Mr. Mehra appreciated the presentation made by Dr. Neha Jain and complimented the steps taken by her in revamping the academic curriculum, psychology lab and creating visibility for the department. All these significant steps would help the department in due course of time.
2. The Vice Chancellor suggested that since there are three faculty members eligible to supervise Ph.D. scholars, the department could potentially enroll up to ten students for Ph.D.
3. Dr. Neha apprised the members regarding the Behavioral Screening Tool being developed for students. The tool is expected to establish the entry level behavioral assessment of the students, and over a period of time would help in analyzing / identifying traits most desirable in prospective students at the admissions stage itself.

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the above and approved the restructuring of the School of Management and Liberal Studies.**

**ITEM No. 10: UPDATE ON LEGAL MATTERS**
(Member Secretary)

The Member Secretary briefed the members about the status of the court cases of the university, as follows:-

**Punjab & Haryana High Court Chandigarh**

1) **CWP-22262/2012 Reservation for Haryana Domiciled students and awarding of fee concession.** In the matter relating to Reservation for Haryana Domiciled students and awarding of fee concession, the petition has been listed as per the roster. The matter is clubbed with CWP 6229/2013 and is put as a regular matter. The case was listed for hearing on **21 July 2022**. Copy of the Interim order is enclosed as **Annexure 10.** The matter is now with the Supreme Court. The next date of hearing is not yet listed.

2) **CWP-6229/2013 Regulation of Admission & fixation of fee in Private Universities**
The University has challenged the Haryana Private Technical Education Institutions, Regulations of Admission of Fee Act 2012**,** as this act exercises control over admissions and fee through the Fee & Admissions Committee.

The University filed extraordinary writ jurisdiction 13602-13603 dated 07-12-2020, to stay the operation of the Haryana Private Technical Education Institution (Regulation of Admission and Fee) Act, 2012 and memo dated 12-11-2020 and 02-12-2020. This matter is also clubbed with CWP 2644 of 2021.

In 2023 , the University received a Memo from Admission & Fee Regulatory Committee, Haryana (Memo no. 206 / A&FRC), dated: 22.03.2023, regarding schedule of submission of fee fixation / revision proposal for the academic session 2024-25, which is enclosed as **Annexure 11.**

Since the matter is subjudice the details were shared with our Legal counsel, who drafted a suitable reply to the Memo dated 22 March 2023, which was then forwarded to the Admission & Fee Regulatory Committee. Copy of the letter sent is enclosed as **Annexure 12.**

**Labour Court Gurugram**
3) Following case pertaining to Notice Pay is in progress in the Labour Court, Gurugram. Details of these case is given as under:

**a) Mr. Trilok Nath, Ex Technical Staff – Non receipt of Notice Period Pay**
The individual is not eligible for notice pay, however gratuity to the individual has been paid. He was informed by Labour Officer Mr. Shushil Maan on 29.09.2020 that he should apply "Maang Patra" against the University if he is not satisfied with the reply. A letter was received from the Asst. Labour Commissioner, Circle 2, Gurugram, regarding "Maang Patra". Detailed reply was submitted to the Labour court on 27-01-2021. University has received a Notice for Appearance & Settlement of Issues from the Court of Mr. Amrit Singh (A.D.J.) Presiding Officer, Tribunal-cum-Labour Court-2, Sharam Shakti Bhawan, Near Mini Sectt., Gurugram and the Hearing was scheduled on 01.09.2021. The last date of hearing was 15th March 2024. The next date of hearing is 05th September 2024.

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the progress of the legal matters.**

**ITEM No. 11: REPORTING MATTERS / INFORMATION POINTS**
(Member Secretary)

1. **NCU granted UGC 12(b) Status**
   The NorthCap University achieved a significant milestone on 21st March 2024 by obtaining recognition under Section 12B of the UGC Act 1956. This accomplishment highlights our steadfast commitment to providing excellence in education. The recognition is a result of the dedicated efforts of our faculty, staff, who consistently pursue academic excellence and innovation.

2. "**100 Great IITians: Dedicated to the Service of the Nation,"**
   Prof. Prem Vrat, Pro-Chancellor; Professor of Eminence and Chief Mentor, has been recognised in the prestigious publication "100 Great IITians: Dedicated to the Service of the Nation" edited by Commander V.K. Jaitly. His profile is aptly titled "An Academician Par Excellence," in the publication, it stands as a beacon of inspiration, chronicling his lifelong dedication to academic excellence and unwavering commitment to India's growth. This inclusion is a true testament to the exceptional calibre of the countless IITians who have chosen to serve our nation. We are incredibly fortunate to have Prof. Prem Vrat as a guiding light at NCU.

3. **13th Fee Concession and Scholarship Distribution Ceremony, 2024**
   The NorthCap University held its 13th Fee Concession & Scholarship Distribution Ceremony for deserving students on 5th March 2024. The Hon'ble Governor of Haryana, Shri Bandaru Dattatraya, was the Chief Guest for the ceremony. NCU demonstrated its commitment to supporting its students by disbursing fee concessions, Merit Scholarships, and financial aid totalling Rs. 1.55 Crore to 370 deserving students. Recognizing the importance of diversity and inclusivity in education, The NorthCap University awarded Hatch Associate Scholarships to 12 female students pursuing STEM education during the ceremony.

4. **Sustainable Institutions of India – Green Rankings 2024**
   The NorthCap University has been ranked in Gold institutional band / category in the Sustainable Institutions of India Green Rankings 2024, receiving the Certificate of Excellence. This recognition underscores our commitment to sustainability and reflects the dedication and hard work of entire NCU community.

5. **National School Innovation Contest and Junior Smart India Hackathon**
   On February 6th, the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IIC Cell, and The NorthCap Incubation and Innovation Centre (NIIC) at The NorthCap University successfully hosted the National School Innovation Contest and Junior Smart India Hackathon, organised by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India. With an impressive turnout, more than 50 schools actively participated in an online pitching session on MS Teams for the shortlisted candidates of the School Innovation Contest.

6. **Android Study Jam 2.0**
   On February 17th, the Google Developer Student Club at NCU successfully hosted Android Study Jam 2.0, a hybrid event conducted in collaboration with Google Developer Club Gurugram at The NorthCap University. Structured to cultivate a vibrant learning community and provide valuable insights into Android development, the event attracted both online and in-person participants, creating a dynamic learning experience for all attendees. The lineup of speakers included Vivek Chauhan (Lead Android Engineer, Cyntra New), Hitesh Garg (Product Manager & DevRel Lead, QuickBlox), Rituparna Warwatkar (Software Developer Intern, FIITJEE), and Luxmi Gupta

(Software Engineer, Pine Labs). The diverse expertise of these speakers contributed to the event's success and offered valuable knowledge to the participants.

7. **Workshop on Web3**
On February 23rd, the IoT Club of the Department of Computer Science organised an educational workshop on Web3 tailored for CSE students. The workshop provided a comprehensive exploration of Web3, incorporating both theoretical insights and practical applications. The inclusion of industry experts like Mr. Anchit and Mr. Sanket as speakers added substantial value, offering students a deep understanding of Web3's potential, challenges, and career opportunities.

8. **Faculty Development Programme on AWS Cloud Practitioner Certification**
The Computer Science and Engineering Department, NCU organised a Faculty Development Programme from 22nd January-22nd February, dedicated to AWS Cloud Practitioner Certification, reinforcing our commitment to staying at the forefront of technological advancements. 19 members actively engaged in the programme, honing their skills in cloud computing, particularly within Amazon Web Services (AWS). The FDP's primary goal was to prepare faculty members for the AWS Cloud Practitioner Certification through comprehensive training sessions and hands-on exercises. The AWS Cloud Practitioner Certification serves as a valuable credential, affirming proficiency in cloud concepts and readiness to leverage AWS services.

9. **The NorthCap University Partners with Coding Ninjas**
On 3rd January, The NorthCap University embarked on a ground-breaking initiative to empower its students with cutting-edge coding skills in collaboration with Coding Ninjas, offering a complimentary Data Structures course in Java to students. This strategic partnership aims to equip students with vital coding skills, elevating their employability and enhancing placement opportunities. The integration of Coding Ninjas' curriculum provides hands-on experience in Java-based data structures, enriching academic journeys and significantly boosting job prospects. This collaboration extends beyond student development to faculty upskilling, ensuring educators stay abreast of industry trends. Integrated into foundational courses and cultivates a culture of continuous learning.

10. **Workshop on 'IOT based Home Automation using NodeMCU' organised by IEEE RAS Chapter of the NorthCap University**
The IEEE RAS Chapter of The NorthCap University conducted a workshop on IoT-based Automation using NodeMCU on 14th February, 2024. More than 50 participants delved into the realm of smart living and gained invaluable insights into NodeMCU's capabilities through hands-on sessions and expert guidance. They crafted innovative solutions for home automation, from controlling lights to monitoring environmental conditions. The workshop fostered collaboration and sparked creativity among its participants, empowering them to apply their newfound knowledge in real-world projects.

11. **Blog Writing Competition to Commemorate Be Electrific Day**
IEEE RAS NCU SB organised a Blog Writing Competition to commemorate Be Electrific Day, celebrated each year on February 11th to honour and celebrate Thomas Alva Edison's contributions to the world of science and technology. The event, which spanned from 11th-21st February, emphasised on the self-discovery of electricity within us. Blogs were invited from students under categories like 'Data is the New Electricity', 'From Homes to Cars– It's now time to Electrify Everything', and 'Live Life Electrified.'

12. **Intra Law School Moot Court Competition at NCU**

On 16th and 17th February, the School of Law organised the III Edition of NCU Intra Law School Moot Court Competition. This annual event serves as a platform for aspiring lawyers to hone their courtroom abilities, apply legal theory to practical scenarios, and engage in rigorous intellectual discourse. This year's moot court problem was centred around the use of Artificial Intelligence in criminal profiling of citizens and its impact on right to privacy. The problem challenged the participants to analyse complex legal issues and develop compelling arguments grounded in relevant statutes and legal precedents. The students of various batches showcased their proficiency in legal argumentation and advocacy. A team of third year students comprising Mohammad Azhad Hassa (21LLB026), Saima Hassan (21LLB027) and Gaurav Yadav (21LLB032) emerged as the winners. A team of second year students comprising Saundarya Singh (22LLB059), Dhruvansh Rai (22LLB072) and Keshav Vats (22LLB069) were the runners-up.

13. **Celebration of National Science Day**

On February 28th, the Department of Applied Sciences, The NorthCap University, celebrated the National Science Day to honour the discovery of Raman Effect by the great Indian Physicist Sir C.V. Raman. On this occasion, several speech and quiz competitions were organised for university students, under the gracious presence of Prof. Kehar Singh, Ex-Dean & Emeritus Fellow, IIT Delhi. He delivered a talk on the life of Sir C.V. Raman, including some intriguing lesser-known facts about his life.

14. **Visit to the 18th Annual National Convention by UN Global Compact Network India**

Students of BA (Hons.) Economics and select research scholars of the School of Management– Ms. Prerna Sharma, and Ms. Mansi Yadav along with faculty coordinator Dr. Priyanka Banerji, attended the 18th Annual National Convention hosted by the United Nations Global Compact Network India at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi. Themed 'Advancing Sustainable India: Driving Change with Forward Faster 2030,' the convention provided invaluable insights and inspiration towards our collective journey for sustainability.

15. **Alumni Homecoming 2024**

On 17th February, The NorthCap University organised the Alumni Homecoming event. The day was filled with a myriad of engaging activities tailored to reconnect and entertain NCU's esteemed alumni. From heartwarming meet and greets to uproarious stand-up comedy acts, mesmerising dance performances by NCU students, and exciting games, every moment created lasting memories for the esteemed alumni. An enlightening session on "Knowing Your Alma Mater" was conducted, featuring engaging talks and captivating videos, further enriching the experience for the 170 odd NCU alumni present.

16. **Health Awareness Session on Fatty Liver**

Manovriti – The Psychology Club, in collaboration with Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, organised a Health Awareness Session on Fatty Liver on February 22nd, 2024. The session was conducted by Iswarya S (Project Officer, SMilES, ILBS) along with 2 students from ILBS as facilitators. The session discussed the psychological effects of suffering from fatty liver, treatment interventions to control these effects, and select psychological case studies.

17. **Third Regional Conclave of the Institution of Engineers India (IEI)**
The NorthCap University hosted the 3rd Regional Conclave of the Institution of Engineers India (IEI) on 16th March 2024 with the theme, 'Innovations Shaping the Future: Exploring Emerging Trends in Engineering. The chief guest, Dr. Sushil Kumar, Chief Scientist & Professor at CSIR National Physical Laboratory (NPL) and senior FIE members- engineers/entrepreneurs, speakers from ministry/industry attended the event shared insights. Dr. Rakhi Nangia, Semiconductor fab Policy Advisory, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Ms. Divya Gera, Senior Data Scientist, Broadcom, Mr. Vineet Gupta, Manager Design & Branding, Gemini Solutions Pvt Ltd spoke about the cutting-edge technologies by sharing their experiences in their respective domains. Students of The NorthCap University and Manav Rachna Institute delved into in-depth discussions on emerging engineering trends in areas such as artificial intelligence, IoT, Robotics, sustainable buildings, waste management, cyber security, and more.

18. **'Cython 2024 – Roadshow'**
The pre-hackathon workshop held on 19th March 2024 was jointly organized by NCIIPC (A unit of NTRO) and FITT-IIT Delhi, aimed to inspire students, startups, and research scholars to address the challenges of the digital age. The workshop provided an exceptional platform for fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in the deep-tech domain. Participants engaged in interactive sessions and collaborative brainstorming activities, empowering them to translate innovative concepts into actionable solutions.

19. **Students Achievements**

(a) E-Summit 2024 Ideathon
Students of Department of Computer Science & Engineering participated in the E-Summit 2024 Ideathon, hosted at LNM Institute of Information Technology (LNMIIT), Jaipur on February 3rd-4th, 2024. The victorious team, comprising of Jatin Dahiya (21CSU235), Aryan Dahiya (21CSU017), Jatin Gandhi (21CSU237), and Priyanka Nagpal (21CSU135), showcased their innovative project "AgriTech" under the mentorship of Dr. Anuradha Dhull and Dr. Shilpa Mahajan. The "AgriTech" solution is designed to assist farmers with features like voice-based support, multilingual voice assistance, crop yield prediction, optimal fertilizer recommendations, and more. The winning team received a prize of Rs. 40,000, along with gift hampers and internship opportunities, emphasizing the recognition of their innovative project idea. These students will further develop their project for potential funding from HARSAC (Haryana Space Application Centre) under the guidance of HARSAC scientists.

(b) Robo Race competitions at Invictus
On 11th and 12th February, Invictus– the robotic event was hosted by Delhi Technological University. The NCU team from the Computer Science and Engineering Department, consisting of Rahul Kr Sangwan (21CSU360), Aayush Jindal (21CSU392), Agastya Srivastava (21CSU372), and Aman Kumar (21CSU390), bagged the 1st position in the Robo-Soccer competition and 3rd position in the Robo-Race competitions. Recognizing their outstanding performance, the team was honoured with a cash prize of ₹12,000.

(c) Competition to commemorate National Productivity Week
Students of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering participated in the National Productivity Week Celebrations (Feb 12 ~ Feb 18, 2024), organized by the Haryana State Productivity Council, is a body comprising of government, Industries and Worker Unions and has been working for Productivity & Safety related issues in the state of Haryana. As a part of The National Productivity Week Celebrations, they organized a competition wherein students from

different universities and colleges in Haryana presented ideas on the theme "Artificial Intelligence - Productivity Engine for Economic Growth" with a focus area – AI for Defense-Logistics in the form of a short video. NCU team comprising of Palak Rohilla (21CSU537), Pratham Jain (21CSU583) and Vishakha Srivastava (21CSU495) under the mentorship of Dr. Srishti got the runner-up position in the competition. The team has been awarded a cash prize of Rs. 3000/- for their achievement.

(d) Jashn – E – Entrepreneur event

On February 22nd, Dr. SS Bhatnagar University Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology, Panjab University, Chandigarh organised the Jashn-e-Entrepreneur event. Utkarsh Singh (21CSU108), a student of the Computer Science and Engineering Department, NCU participated in the event under the guidance of Dr. Anjali Garg, and achieved the runner-up position and was honoured with a cash prize of ₹15000 for his outstanding accomplishment.

(e) Student, 21CSU581 Riya Sharma of Department of Computer Science & Engineering, under the guidance of Dr. Poonam Chaudhary bagged the winner's position in the Microsoft AI Odyssey Challenge, a National Level Event. Riya has successfully completed all the 6 challenges at 2 levels and secured a position among top 10 at the National Level. Her hard work and skills facilitated her the privilege of attending the Microsoft AI Tour in Bengaluru in presence of Mr. Satya Nadela, CEO of Microsoft.

(f) National Social Summit at IIT Roorkee

The National Service Scheme (NSS) team at The NorthCap University was invited to attend the National Social Summit organised by IIT Roorkee from 9th-11th February, 2024. The team attended the summit and performed an impactful Nukkad Natak on sustainability and empowerment, attended informative webinars that broadened their horizons and took an active part in Esports that were organised by the team. Sareesha Chawla (21LLB002) bagged the first position in the Policy Case Competition.

(g) Four final year (tenth semester) BBA LLB (H) students at the School of Law have been offered pre-placements as Consultants with annual pay packages of five L.P.A. and above in the renowned international audit, consulting and advisory firm, Mazars Advisory LLP. The students who have made us proud are Tanu Mehta 19LLB078, Sourabh Jha 19LLB069, Shivani Kataria 19LLB072, Anmol Kaur Sandhu 19LLB006.

20. **Signing of MoU's**

**(a) MoU with Loyola Marymount University, USA**

An MoU with Loyola Marymount University (LMU), USA has been signed on 08 Feb 2024. LMU. Loyola Marymount University (LMU) is a private Jesuit and Marymount research university in Los Angeles, California. LMU is the parent school to Loyola Law School and offers 55 major and 59 minor undergraduate degrees and programs across six undergraduate colleges. The Graduate Division offers 47 master's degree programs, one education doctorate, one doctorate in juridical science, a Juris Doctor and 13 credential programs. The scope of the agreement includes: -
   i.  Exchange information and experience regarding educational exchange programs and make cooperative efforts to promote such educational exchange programs.
   ii. Explore joint degree/ dual degree pathways.
   iii. Research collaboration between faculty and short-term exchange of faculty members.
   iv. Organize student exchange programs.

v.    Organize joint seminars and competitions for students.

**(b) MoU Signing with ETS India**

On 9th February 2024, The NorthCap University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Educational Test Service India. Mr. Sachin Jain (Country Manager, ETS) and Commodore Diwakar Tomar NM (Retd.) (Registrar, NCU) signed the MoU in the event organised by Centre of Professional Attachment and Alumni Engagement. ETS India is a subsidiary of ETS, headquartered in Princeton, USA. ETS develops, administers, and scores more than 50 million tests annually – including the globally well-known TOEFL and GRE tests in over 160 countries worldwide. ETS India's alliance with NCU offers the following benefits:

- Special Discounts for students: Rs.2500 on TOEFL & Rs.2000 on GRE (Combo Discount Offer: Rs.5000)
- Official GRE and TOEFL Prep Material in Institutions LMS/Library
- TOEFL Practice Test for every registered test taker
- Seminars, Teacher Training & TOEFL Masterclasses for faculties as well as students

21. **Visit of delegates from Santa Clara University (SCU), USA.**

The NCU has an active MoU with Santa Clara University, USA. Romana Bucur, Senior Assistant Dean, Strategic Initiatives and Global Engagement and Prof. Sriram Sundararajan, Professor of Marketing, Leavey School of Business visited The NorthCap University on 2nd February 2024. The purpose of the visit was to delve deeper into potential collaboration opportunities between The NorthCap University and Santa Clara University, USA. During their visit, they engaged with students and discussed the opportunities available at Leavey School of Business, Santa Clara University, USA. Prof Sriram Sundararajan shared motivational success mantras. They also held discussions with the senior leadership team of NCU.

22. **Visit of delegates from Moscow State University, Russia.**

Delegates from Moscow State University visited NCU on 2nd February 2024. The Moscow State University (MSU) is one of the oldest and most renowned universities of Russia. Ranked 87 in the QS World University Rankings, it has more than 47,000 students, and inducts almost 4,000 international students every year. The purpose of the visit was to explore potential opportunities for collaboration between our institutions. Prof. Sharda Vashisth (HoD-MDE & Dy Dean International Affairs), Prof. Manoj Gopaliya (Dean Academics), Prof. Archana Sharma (HoD-SOL), Prof Manjula Batra (Sr. Professor, SOL) and other senior faculty members from NCU held discussions with the delegates on Semester Exchange Programs, Student and Faculty Exchange, Research Collaborations, Immersion Programs and holding of Joint Conferences.

23. **Financial Support – Department of Science & Technology (DST)**
**MDE Dept**

The project titled "Early Prediction and Evaluation of Sepsis using Machine Learning" has been recommended for financial support of Rs 26 Lakhs for a period of 3 years from the Department of Science & Technology (DST). The Principal Investigator (PI) for this project is Ms. Shraddha Kumar, a Research Scholar in the MDE Department. The Mentor for the project is Dr. Pooja Sabherwal.

**APS Dept**

1. Two new research projects from the APS Department got the sanction of the Government agency (DST-SERB), as follows: -

o Project Title: Designing of various hybrid structure phase masks for optical image encryption for information security using certain selected mathematical transforms. Grant amount: 33.12 Lakh, Duration: 3 Years. Principal Investigator - Prof. Hukum Singh. Agency: DST-SERB (Core Research Grant).

o Project Title: Development of air-stable perovskite semiconductor-based field-effect phototransistor with a high response speed. Grant amount: 16.8 Lakh, Duration: 3 Years, (Principal Investigator - Dr. Arjun Singh. Agency: DST-SERB (TARE).

24. **The NorthCap University, Trademark Registration**
Consequent to our collaboration with Arizona State University (ASU) a new logo was prepared and sent to The Registrar of Trademark, Delhi. The Registrar of Trademark, Delhi had raised some objections, which were answered by our Advocate who has filed the Trademark application. The case came up for hearing on 08 January 2024, but got postponed on the morning of 08 January 2024 due to administrative reasons. The case finally came up for hearing on 22 Feb 2024 (**Annexure 13**), wherein the Registrar of Trademark accepted the explanation of our Advocate to the objections raised. The trademark application has been advertised in the Trade Marks Journal on 11th March 2024, and in case no third party opposes the registration of the mark within 04 months of such advertisement in the journal, the mark will proceed for registration.

25. **Turnover of faculty and staff members since the last Board of Management meeting held on 31 January 2024.**

**New Faculty & Staff members joined**

| FACULTY | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| S. No | DEPT. | NAME | DESIGNATION | DOJ |
| 1 | SOB | Prof. Avinash Kumar | Professor of Practice | 15.01.2024 |
| 2 | SOM & LS | Dr. Neha Jain | Associate Professor | 18.01.2024 |
| 3 | SOM & LS | Ms. Meenakshi Bisla | Assistant Professor | 20.01.2024 |
| 4 | CSE | Dr. Namita Dahiya | Assistant Professor (Sr. Scale) | 29.01.2024 |
| ADMIN | | | |
| S. No | DEPT. | NAME | DESIGNATION | DOJ |
| 1 | Dean Office | Mr. Dharmendra Kumar | Sr. Executive Assistant | 17.02.2024 |
| 2 | Admissions | Ms. Richa Sharma | Admissions Counsellor | 20.02.2024 |
| 3 | CPAAE | Mr. Vikas Narula | Director | 11.03.2024 |
| 4 | Front Desk | Ms. Komal | Executive Assistant | 02.04.2024 |
| TECHNICAL | | | |
| S. No | DEPT. | NAME | DESIGNATION | DOJ |
| - | - | - | - | - |

**Faculty & Staff members who Left**

| FACULTY | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S. No | DEPT. | NAME | DESIGNATION | DOJ | DOL |
| 1 | APS | Dr. Tejpal Singh Chundawat | Associate Professor | 27.01.2014 | 12.03.2024 |

| ADMIN & TECHNICAL | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S. No | DEPT. | NAME | DESIGNATION | DOJ | DOL |

| 1 | Admissions | Ms. Kapila Sharma | Sr. Admissions Counsellor | 02.05.2022 | 12.02.2024 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Admissions | Ms. Richa Yadav | Admissions Counsellor | 13.03.2023 | 12.02.2024 |
| 3 | IRO | Mr. Deepanshu Rao | Sr. Executive Assistant | 20.12.2023 | 13.02.2024 |
| 4 | Dean Office | Mr. Lalit Kumar | Lab Engineer | 01.06.2012 | 17.02.2024 |
| 5 | Library | Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mishra | Assistant Librarian | 12.07.2010 | 20.02.2024 |

**Points Discussed:**

1. Mr. Mehra appreciated the efforts of the International Relations Office (IRO) and Dr. Sharda Vashisth for securing international Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with prestigious universities worldwide.

**All members of the Board of Management took note of the above.**

**ITEM No. 12: FINANCE COMMITTEE RELATED MATTERS**
(Member Secretary)

The Finance committee related matters discussed and approved during the last Finance Committee Meeting were updated to the members, and minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 19th April 2024 are enclosed as **Annexure 14**.

**All Members of the Board of Management took note of the above and approved the aforesaid Finance Committee related matters.**

**ITEM No. 13: ANY OTHER MATTER WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.**

**Following points were discussed with the permission of the Chair:**

1. **ISSUES PERTAINING TO CINTANA ALLIANCE**

   Mr Mehra briefed the members of the Board of Management on some of the problematic issues which NCU has been facing with the Cintana Alliance. He brought out that the Chancellor Mr Avdhesh Mishra during the 39 Governing Body meeting held on 01 Mar 2024 had briefed the members that post Covid period, based on the prevailing situation, the digitisation and internationalisation in the education sector was considered a focus area and a desirable aspect to pursue. Accordingly, NCU identified a global player M/s Cintana Alliance to explore collaboration opportunities with other universities worldwide. Mr Mishra brought out that the collaboration with Cintana Alliance however has not lived up to its intended outcomes, and has not yielded the desired results. He stated that in particular, two significant obligations of the contract have fallen well short of the promised delivery. These pertain to non-appointment of two secondees on a regular basis, and the breach of exclusivity clause (Clause 2.8 of the License Agreement of February 2021, signed between The NorthCap University (NCU) Gurugram and the Arizona Board of Regents, a body corporate, for and on behalf of Arizona State University (ASU), whereby ASU has granted certain rights in terms of ASU Educational Assets and Contents in the 'territory' of Haryana and NCR as defined in the agreement). ASU is a member university of the Cintana Alliance. Despite repeatedly taking up the issue of breach of exclusivity rights of NCU under the NCU-ASU agreement with Cintana, no significant steps have been taken by Cintana to address the concerns raised by NCU. In short, he brought out that Cintana has overpromised and

underdelivered on its obligations. Mr Mishra stated that significant financial outflow is incurred in the agreement with Cintana Alliance without commensurate gain, and hence there is a need to reconsider continuation of the collaboration with Cintana, in new avtar, if at all.

Mr Mehra stated that the above issues, along with those referred at paras 5, 6 and 7 under Item No 1 of these minutes, need to be expeditiously addressed and resolved by Cintana and ASU.

**All members of the Board of Management noted the above and took it on record.**

2. **REVISED SOP FOR HANDLING CASES OF INDISCIPLINE**
   The member Secretary brought out that the university formulated a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for handling student indiscipline cases in April 2023. Based on the insights gained over the past one year, there was a felt need to further fine tune the procedure, due to delays caused by multiple stakeholders and approval stages. Following a comprehensive review with the University Disciplinary Committee Chairperson, a revised SOP has been put in place to streamline procedures and ensure timely resolution of cases. The document is titled NCU/DISC/SOP/2023 VERSION 2. He further brought out that the revised SOP is aligned with Ordinance 8 of the University which deals with the disciplinary cases. The revised SOP is placed at **Annexure 15**.

   **All members of the Board of Management took note of the above and approved the same.**

3. **INCREASE IN INTAKE OF ONLINE BBA & B.COM FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025**

   The Member Secretary brought out that Director CDOE has proposed to increase the number of seats for the BBA and B.Com online programs from 50 to 250 each, for the Academic Year 2024-25.

   **All members of the Board of Management took note of the above and approved the same.**

There being no other points, the meeting ended at 1:45 PM with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**Commodore Diwakar Tomar NM (Retd.)**
**Member Secretary**
**Board of Management**
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**+91- 9910995228**